

State of North Carolina



MICHAEL F. EASLEY
GOVERNOR

WINE AND GRAPE APPRECIATION MONTH

2007

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the wine community is an important part of agribusiness in North Carolina and wineries are flourishing across the Tar Heel State; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina currently has 63 wineries and 400 commercial grape growers; and

WHEREAS, the number of wineries in the state has tripled since 2000, from 21 to 63; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina is home to our Nation's first cultivated winegrape, the scuppernong, discovered on Roanoke Island in 1585, which led North Carolina to become the leading wine producing state prior to prohibition; and

WHEREAS, the annual economic impact of North Carolina-produced grapes and wine is estimated at \$813 million, with 5,700 jobs created; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina ranks 10th nationally in grape and wine production; and

WHEREAS, vineyard and wineries play an important role in North Carolina's tourism industry; and

WHEREAS, state wineries and vineyards significantly enhance tourism by providing a unique travel destination, green space, and aesthetic appeal; and

WHEREAS, according to the 2005 study, "Economic Impact of North Carolina Wine," each year more than 800,000 tourists visit North Carolina wineries;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MICHAEL F. EASLEY, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim October 2007, as "WINE AND GRAPE APPRECIATION MONTH" in North Carolina.



Mike Easley
MICHAEL F. EASLEY

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capital in Raleigh this first day of May in the year of our Lord two thousand and seven, and of the Independence of the United States of American the two hundred and thirty-first.